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Atty Dkt No. 2500-2518

5/30/02 Date Margaret & Klopping

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Kenneth FRANCO et al.

Serial No.:-09/966,800

Filing Date: September 25, 2001

Title: RESORBABLE ANASTOMOSIS STENTS AND PLUGS AND THEIR USE IN PATIENTS

Group Art Unit: 3762

Examiner: Unassigned

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the above-identified patent application prior to examination thereof:

## AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 26, 27 and 37.

Please amend claims 1, 28, 33, 35, 36, 38, 94 and 96 as indicated in Appendix A. The amended claims will then read as follows:

1. An anastomosis stent for insertion into an opening in a lumen of a vessel or tissue of a patient, comprising:

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